

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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R 101735Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9447
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NUIROBI
SECDEF WASH DC//ASD/ISA/DSAA
JCS WASHDC
NWC WASH DC
NDU WASH DC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ-4/7 SA
DIA WASH DC//AH-8

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 3266

E.O. 11652: NGDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SG, OTRA
SUBJECT: MAY 2-4 VISIT OF NDU FIELD STUDIES GROUP

REF STATE 043124

1. SUMMARY: MAY 2-4 VISIT TO SENEGAL BY AFRICAN STUDIES
GROUP OF NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU) WAS CORDIALLY
RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL (GOS). VISIT PROVIDED
NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR SENEGALESE TO DEMONSTRATE IMPORTANCE
THEY ATTACH TO EXPANDING COOPERATION WITH US IN DEFENSE
FIELD. GROUP OF ELEVEN STUDENTS AND TWO FACULTY WERE
RECEIVED BY SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF AND GIVEN
SUBSTANTIVE BRIEFINGS BY HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS IN MINISTRIES
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PLAN AND COOPERATION, AND DEFENSE.

GROUP DISCUSSED DEVELOPMENT ISSUES WITH SENEGALESE
OFFICIALS AT DINNER GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR AND AT RECEPTION
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GIVEN BY COMMANDING GENERAL OF SENEGALESE ARMED FORCES.
MINISTRY OF ARMED FORCES PROVIDED PLANE FOR TOUR OF
SENEGAL RIVER BASIN AND SCHEDULED PROGRAM OF TOURS AND
BRIEFINGS IN FLEUVE REGION. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MAY 2, PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF RECEIVED NDU
GROUP AND, IN BRIEF REMARKS, STATED THAT SENEGAL CON-

SIDERS US TO BE WORLD LEADER IN AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND EXPRESSED IMPORTANCE SENEGAL PLACES ON CONTINUING GOOD RELATIONS WITH US. PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS WERE PRECEDED BY FOREIGN POLICY BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR YOUSSEPH SYLLA, FOREIGN MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR, AND FOLLOWED BY ECONOMIC BRIEFING BY MOUSTAPHA N'DIAYE, CABINET DIRECTOR FOR MINISTRY OF PLAN AND COOPERATION. (BOTH MINISTERS OF FONAFFAIRS AND PLAN/COOPERATION WERE ABSENT FROM COUNTRY, ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT ON TRIP TO EUROPE).

3. SENEGALESE AIR FORCE PROVIDED C-47 TO FLY GROUP TO SAINT LOUIS, CAPITAL OF RIVER REGION WHERE THEY WERE MET BY GOVERNOR NDAO AND REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDER. SCHEDULE INCLUDED BRIEFINGS BY GOVERNOR AND HEAD OF AREA'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY. GOVERNOR NDAO ARRANGED TOURS OF CITY, LOCAL PROJECTS, AND HISTORIC GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE, SITE OF LAST MONTH'S VISIT BY FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING. PRESS COVERAGE OF ST. LOUIS VISIT DREW ATTENTION TO WARMTH OF WELCOME AND "IMPRESSIVE" NUMBERS OF LEADING SENEGALSES OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PROGRAM.

4. FOLLOWING OVER-FLIGHT OF SENEGAL RIVER BASIN AND TOUR OF SUGAR REFINERY AND PLANTATION AT RICHARD TOLL, GROUP RETURNED TO DAKAR FOR RECEPTION GIVEN BY GENERAL IDRISSE FALL, ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF, AND WERE GUESTS AT NATIONAL THEATRE FOR SENEGALESE MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCES.

5. MISSION CONSIDERS VISIT OUTSTANDING SUCCESS WHICH
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REINFORCED MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US AND SENEGAL AND STRENGTHENED OUR RELATIONS WITH SENEGALESE MILITARY, DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL OFFICIALS. COOPERATION BY SENEGALESE MILITARY WAS UNSTINTING AND SMOOTHLY ORGANIZED. IT IS CLEAR THAT MILITARY COMMAND WELCOMES OPPORTUNITIES TO DEMONSTRATE ITS DESIRE FOR CLOSER COOPERATION WITH US AND TO DEVELOP DIRECT CONTACT WITH AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. SENEGALESE ATTACH HIGH IMPORTANCE TO SUCH VISITS AT MOMENT WHEN, AS EVIDENCED BY STATEMENTS DURING AND AFTER APRIL 20-21 DAKAR FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT, THEY ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER SECURITY OF MODERATE AFRICAN STATES AND LOOK TO WEST FOR DEFENSE ASSISTANCE. WHILE SENEGALESE MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERS WELCOME SUCH SYMBOLIC GESTURES TOWARD FRIENDLY AFRICAN STATES AS NDU VISIT, THEY ARE ANXIOUS THAT THESE CONTACTS BE FOLLOWED BY CONCRETE BILATERAL DEFENSE COOPERATION INCLUDING CONUS TRAINING FOR PILOTS (FOR US AIRCRAFT ALREADY IN SENEGALESE INVENTORY) AND OTHER PERSONNEL, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR MILITARY, AND OBTENTION OF

US ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT FOR CIVIC ACTION PROJECT.
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